

Amendments to the Claims

Please amend claims as follows:

- ✓ 1. (Previously Amended) A mattress for a bed having a frame for supporting the mattress and siderails, including:
a non-puncture resistant cover having an interior surface; and
a core disposed adjacent the interior surface including a body defining a plurality of mounting locations, each mounting location including an enclosure, the core further including a plurality of self-sealing gas containers¹⁷ respectively disposed within the plurality of enclosures.
2. (Canceled)
- ✓ 3. (Previously Amended) The mattress of claim 1, wherein each enclosure provides a substantially cylindrical space for receiving a respective container.
4. (Original) The mattress of claim 1, wherein the body is formed of substantially non-stretchable material.
5. (Original) The mattress of claim 4, wherein the substantially non-stretchable material is one of substantially non-stretchable fabric and substantially non-stretchable film.
6. (Original) The mattress of claim 1, wherein the body is formed of woven nylon twill.
- ✓ 7. (Original) The mattress of claim 1, wherein the cover defines an interior space bounded by the interior surface, the core being disposed substantially within the interior space.
- ✓ 8. (Original) The mattress of claim 1, wherein the containers are substantially cylindrical.
- ✓ 9. (Original) The mattress of claim 1, wherein the body includes an upper layer and a lower layer, the upper and lower layers being connected at a plurality of seams, thereby forming substantially cylindrical spaces for receiving the plurality of containers.
- ✓ 10. (Original) The mattress of claim 9 wherein the plurality of seams are substantially parallel to one another.
- ✓ 11. (Previously Amended) The mattress of claim 1 wherein the containers are connected to a gas source.

✓ 12. (Original) The mattress of claim 1 wherein the cover includes a sleep surface opposite the interior surface.

✓ 13. (Original) The mattress of claim 1 wherein the siderails have a minimum height above a sleep surface of the cover, and the core has a height, substantially all of the core height being occupied by the plurality of containers.

✓ 14. (Original) The mattress of claim 1 wherein one of the containers is pressurized to a first pressure and another of the containers is pressurized to a second pressure that is different from the first pressure.

✓ 15. (Previously Amended) A mattress for a bed having a frame for supporting the mattress and siderails, including:

✓ a non-puncture resistant cover having an interior surface; and
a core disposed adjacent the interior surface including a plurality of enclosures, each enclosure including a self-sealing lining and each enclosure being affixed to an adjacent enclosure.

✓ 16. (Original) The mattress of claim 15 wherein each enclosure defines a substantially cylindrical space.

○ 17. (Original) The mattress of claim 15 wherein the plurality of enclosures are formed of substantially non-stretchable material.

○ 18. (Original) The mattress of claim 17 wherein the substantially non-stretchable material is one of substantially non-stretchable fabric and substantially non-stretchable film.

○ 19. (Original) The mattress of claim 15 wherein the plurality of enclosures are formed of woven nylon twill.

✓ 20. (Original) The mattress of claim 15 wherein the cover defines an interior space bounded by the interior surface, the core being disposed substantially within the interior space.

9 ✓ 21. (Previously Amended) The mattress of claim 15 wherein the core includes an upper layer and a lower layer, the upper and lower layers being connected at a plurality of seams, thereby forming the plurality of enclosures.

1° ✓ 22. (Original) The mattress of claim 21 wherein the plurality of seams are substantially parallel to one another.

23. (Original) The mattress of claim 15 wherein the plurality of enclosures are connected to a gas source, the gas source pressurizing the enclosures with a gas.

24. (Original) The mattress of claim 23 wherein one of the plurality of enclosures is pressurized to a first pressure and another of the plurality of enclosures is pressurized to a second pressure that is different from the first pressure.

25. (Original) The mattress of claim 15 wherein the cover includes a sleep surface opposite the interior surface.

26. (Original) The mattress of claim 25 wherein the siderails have a minimum height above the cover sleep surface, thereby defining a maximum height of the core, substantially all of the maximum core height being occupied by the plurality of enclosures.

27. (Previously Amended) A mattress, including:
means for defining a core including a plurality of sealed enclosures containing a gas, each enclosure being affixed to an adjacent enclosure; and
means for automatically re-sealing a puncture in any of the plurality of enclosures to prevent the gas from being released.

28. (Previously Amended) A patient support including:
a frame,
a siderail connected to the frame, and
a mattress supported by the frame including a non-puncture resistant cover having an interior surface; and a core disposed adjacent the interior surface including a plurality of enclosures housing a respective plurality of containers, each container including a self-sealing lining.

29. (Previously Amended) The patient support of claim 28 wherein each enclosure defines a substantially cylindrical space.

30. (Previously Amended) The patient support of claim 28 wherein the plurality of enclosures are formed of substantially non-stretchable material.

31. (Previously Amended) The patient support of claim 30 wherein the substantially non-stretchable material is one of substantially non-stretchable fabric and substantially non-stretchable film.

32. (Previously Amended) The patient support of claim 28 wherein the plurality of enclosures are formed of woven nylon twill.

33. (Previously Amended) The patient support of claim 28 wherein the cover defines an interior space bounded by the interior surface, the core being disposed substantially within the interior space.

34. (Previously Amended) The patient support of claim 28 wherein the core includes an upper layer and a lower layer, the upper and lower layers being connected at a plurality of seams, thereby forming the plurality of enclosures.

35. (Previously Amended) The patient support of claim 34 wherein the plurality of seams are substantially parallel to one another.

36. (Previously Amended) The patient support of claim 28 wherein the plurality of enclosures are connected to a gas source, the gas source pressurizing the enclosures with a gas.

37. (Currently Amended) The patient support of claim 36 wherein one of the plurality of enclosures is pressurized to a first pressure and another of the plurality of enclosures is pressurized to a second pressure that is different from the first pressure.

4038. (Currently Amended) The patient support of claim 28 wherein the cover includes a sleep surface opposite the interior surface and the core is positioned on an upper surface of the frame.

4139. (Currently Amended) The patient support of claim 4038 wherein the siderail has a minimum height above the cover sleep surface, thereby defining a maximum height of the core relative to the upper surface of the frame, substantially all of the maximum core height being occupied by the plurality of enclosures.
